REPORT

FROM THE

SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

NOVEMBER, 1831

REPORT OF THE INDIAN BUREAU.

Department of War,
Office Indian Affairs, 19*th November*, 1831.

Sir: In compliance with an order of the department of the 20th August last, I had the honor of laying before you, a few days since, an estimate of the current expenses of the Indian Department for the year 1832, amounting to 169,640 dollars, a duplicate of which is herewith furnished, marked A.

This estimate exceeds the amount of that submitted at the last session of Congress, about the sum of 8,500 dollars. The increase arises, in part, from an addition to the item "for the pay of the Superintendent and Agents of Indian Affairs;" of the sum of 1,500 dollars for the salary of the Agent appointed under the provisions of the Choctaw treaty, for the Choctaws west; and, in part, by the addition of 7,000 dollars as an item "for building houses for Indian Agents" not embraced in the former estimate for the current expenses of the Indian Department. An appropriation of the last mentioned sum, on an estimate subsequently submitted, was, however, made at the last session of Congress for this object; and, it is believed, that the appropriation of an equal amount, at least, will be required for the service of the next year, to provide suitable accommodations for the agents and their assistants for the Choctaws, Shawneese and other tribes, who have made arrangements to remove, and whose departure, where it has not already taken place, may be looked for in the course of the ensuing year.

In further obedience to the said order of the 20th August last, the statements marked B and C are herewith submitted, together with such remarks in relation to the operations of the Indian Department for the last year, embraced by them, as seem to be required for their more complete elucidation.

Statement B, exhibits the amount drawn from the Treasury and remitted for disbursment, under each head of appropriation in the Indian Department during the three first quarters of the year 1831; the amount for which accounts have been rendered under each head for the same period; and the several balances remaining to be accounted for according to the books of this office. It will be seen by this statement, that the whole amount remitted for disbursement is $688.344 31; that the whole amount for which accounts have been rendered is $420,598 72; and that the amount remaining to be accounted for is $267,745 59. This balance is in the hands of distant agents for the payment of annuities and other specified objects; and it is presumable that they have not yet completed their disbursements; but if they have, the remoteness of their residence has prevented, as yet, the reception of their accounts.

Statement C, exhibits the information required by the order of the department in relation to the schools established in the Indian country, and which receive aid from the annual appropriation of $10,000 for the civilization of the Indians. The number of children taught at the schools, embraced in the statement, is 1215. In addition to these, there are 113 Indian youths at the Choctaw Academy, in Kentucky, the expenses of whose education are paid from funds set apart by the Indians themselves, and by treaty stipulations for this purpose. This institution, which was established solely for the education of Indian children, is under good regulations, and in flourishing condition: and, it is believed, furnishes the best means of applying the education funds of the Indians to the useful and valuable end contempla-

ted by their creation. Many Indian youths, who have therein received the benefits of tuition, have already returned to their respective tribes, carrying with them the rudiments of learning, the elements of morals, and the precepts of religion, all apparently calculated to subdue the habits, and soften the feelings of their kindred, and to prepare the way for the gradual introduction of civilization and Christianity. That such will be the result of the intellectual and moral cultivation of a portion of the young of their respective tribes, on the life and character of the Indians in their confederacies, cannot be predicted with certainty. It is however, an experiment creditable to our national council, and meriting its further patronage. It is an experiment consecrated by our best feelings, delightful to the view of the patriot, and dear to the heart of philanthropy; but time alone can disclose its efficacy.

The humane policy, exemplified in the system adopted by the Government with respect to the Indian tribes residing within the limits of the United States, which is now in operation, is progressively developing its good effects; and, it is confidently trusted, will at no distant day, be crowned with complete success. Gradually diminishing in numbers and deteriorating in condition; incapable of coping with the superior intelligence of the white man, ready to fall into the vices, but unapt to appropriate the benefits of the social state; the increasing tide of white population threatened soon to engulf them, and finally to cause their total extinction. The progress is slow but sure; the cause is inherent in the nature of things; tribes numerous and powerful have disappeared from among us in a ratio of decrease, ominous to the existence of those that still remain, unless counteracted by the substitution of some principle sufficiently potent to check the tendencies to decay and dissolution. This salutary principle exists in the system of removal; of change of residence; of settlement in territories exclusively their own, and under the protection of the United States; connected with the benign influences of education and instruction in agriculture and the several mechanic arts, whereby social is distinguished from savage life.

In pursuance of this policy, the necessary measures have been taken for the execution of the Choctaw treaty ratified at the last session of Congress, and the Indians of that tribe are now in motion. It is presumed that about 5000 will emigrate west of the Mississippi before the winter sets in; and there are the best grounds for believing, that a much greater number will go over in the course of the ensuing year. Sanguine expectations may thus be indulged, that the whole nation will be moved within the time (three years) prescribed by the treaty.

The Chickasaw Indians who are disposed to follow their friends and neighbors, the Choctaws, and to reside near them, have not yet been provided with suitable lands. For the purpose of procuring such for their accommodation, it became necessary to effect an arrangement with the Choctaws for a cession of a portion of their country in the west. Major John H. Eaton and General John Coffee have accordingly been constituted commissioners to treat with the Choctaws for this object. In the event of a successful issue of their negotiation, the removal of the Chickasaws will probably take place before the termination of another year.

The chiefs of the Cherokees have given, as yet, no evidence of a relinquishment of their determination not to accept the propositions of the Government, so cordially embraced by the tribes before-mentioned, for an exchange of lands and residence. The influence of the Indian chief is of a nature to overrule the general wish, which, if allowed to express itself

freely, might be favorable to removal. Being induced to believe, from information to be relied on, that a number of the tribe would emigrate, if encouraged and aided by the Government, the department endeavored to revive emigration under the provisions of the treaty of 1828. The plan is in operation, but is of too recent date to admit of calculating the probability and extent of its success.

The Creek Indians are in the same predicament—their position having been unaltered through the past year. Involved in difficulties, they have shown no inclination to relieve themselves from the embarrassment of their situation, by accepting the liberal and often-repeated propositions of the Government. It is to be hoped that the time will shortly come, when better counsels will prevail, and a juster appreciation of the benefits submitted to their choice, open their eyes to a sense of their real interests.

In other quarters, more favorable issues have awaited our efforts. Colonel James B. Gardiner, who was appointed on the 31st March last Special Agent or Commissioner, to treat with the Indians in Ohio for an exchange of lands, and their removal west of the Mississippi, has successfully negotiated for these objects. Treaties have been concluded, and signed by him and the Indian Agent, Colonel McElvain, with the Shawneese, Ottawas, and the mixed band of Shawneese and Senecas of Lewistown. The Senecas had concluded a treaty for the same objects, during the past winter, which was ratified at the last session of Congress, and they are now on their way to their western domain. The only Indian possessions remaining in Ohio, are those of the Wyandots, with whom the preliminaries of a treaty have been agreed on, and will be finally concluded, in the event of a favorable report by the deputation sent out by them to look at the country of their proposed destination. The treaties above-mentioned are herewith communicated. By these arrangements, the entire Indian population of Ohio will, in all probability, have been removed, within the coming year, from the confines of the State, and will have formed new settlements under better auspices. The benefits of the measure will be still further enhanced, by the considerable quantity of valuable lands which, in consequence, will be thrown open to the enterprize of the citizens of the State.

A band of Sac Indians, headed by a warrior, called Black Hawk, continuing to reside on lands on Rock river, in Illinois, ceded by treaty to the United States, and evincing an obstinate purpose of remaining, associated with strong indications of hostility towards the citizens of that State, residing in the vicinity. Under such menacing circumstances, the Governor thought it expedient to order out a body of militia for their protection, and for the removal of the Indians. This timely movement, on the part of the executive of that State, with the co operation of the troops of the United States, promptly afforded by the commanding General, (Gaines,) caused the Indians to yield their unjustifiable purpose, and to move off peaceably to their lands west of the Mississippi. The step was judicious—as it is presumable from the reports to this department—that this well-timed display of military force prevented resistance and bloodshed. The particulars of this affair are detailed in the accompanying parpers, marked D.

It will always be a desideratum to repress the feuds, and lesson the occasions of strife between neighboring tribes. It is equally the dictate of humanity and prudence, and is a necessary emanation from the benevolent policy, before spoken of, towards the aboriginal race of the country. In reference thereto, a treaty of peace was effected in July, 1830, by General Clark and Colonel Morgan, at Prarie du Chien, between the Sacs and

Foxes, and the Winnebagoes and Menomonies, and other tribes, by which it was hoped that hostility was provided against, if not merged in kinder dispositions, and tranquillity secured to our borders. But, contrary to every reasonable expectation, a year had hardly passed away, before the provisions of the treaty were grossly violated. In defiance of its obligations, and of the respect due to the flag of the United States, an atrocious act was committed on the 31st of July last, by a party of the Sacs and Foxes, near fort Crawford, and within reach of its guns, by an attack in the night upon a Menomonie camp, in which twenty five of their number were killed, and many others wounded. Immediately on the intelligence of this most insulting and barbarous outrage, measures were taken by the department for the arrest and punishment of the offenders. Time has not, as yet, been allowed to learn their result. Meanwhile, the aggrieved party, the Menomonies, have been counselled to remain quiet, under an assurance that the Government will cause justice to be done, by punishment of the guilty, and ample satisfaction for the loss of their friends. For further, and full information on the subject, you are respectfully referred to the accompanying papers, marked E.

Marauding parties, of the various tribes, will incessantly seek opportunities of rapine and violence. Their march is in the dead of night—their haunt is in the wilderness. Hence, it is difficult to restrain them, and their aggressions will sometimes escape merited retribution. It is, however, steadily inculcated on the agents of the Government, to interpose its authority to the utmost for the prevention of any acts tending to disturb the harmony, or endanger the security of person or property, among the Indian tribes under its protection.

During the last spring some difficulties took place, from the cause above alluded to, between the Osages, and Creeks and Cherokees, on account of depredations committed by the former on the latter tribes. These however have been happily settled by a conference between these Indians, called together by the authority of General Clark, at Cantonment Gibson, and at which treaties of peace and amity were concluded.

These are the only cases of disturbance of importance among the Indians that have come to the knowledge of this department during the year. Differences and contentions about matters wholly relating to themselves, will, and frequently do, occur among separate bands living near each other, sometimes accompanied by violence and bloodshed. These happening in the Indian country, cannot easily be provided against by the Government, but find impunity in remoteness of place, and in obscurity of circumstance touching the perpetration. And it must be expected under this view, that the sons of the forest will continue to seek occasions of disputing and fighting with each other, while the savage notion subsists in full force among them, that war furnishes for their young men the only road to distinction.

It is respectfully submitted, whether a salutary modification may not be effected in the existing laws relating to intercourse with the Indians, and the payment of their annuities.

There are more than twenty different acts of Congress, providing for the payment of Indian annuities, and they require an equal number of accounts to be opened and kept in the books of the Treasury; and some of the provisions of these acts have been repealed by treaties of more recent date. In accordance with this system, every new treaty, stipulating the payment of annuities, will increase the number of acts for that object, and consequently the number of accounts. The multiplication of these acts and accounts

tends to confusion, and renders it difficult to distinguish existing provisions from those that have been virtually repealed.

It is apprehended, that an annual act, predicated on a statement to be laid before Congress, at the commencement of every session, shewing the annuities due, and to be provided for in the ensuing year, would simplify this branch of business, and render it at once much more intelligible, and much less laborious. Congress would be thereby annually informed of the actual state of the annuities, and of the precise amount required for their liquidation. Such a consolidating act would at once prevent unnecessary complication; and while it would lessen labor in the different offices, by reducing the number of accounts kept open in their books, would, at the same time, render plain and clear what, from numerous entries, is apparently intricate and obscure.

Our relations with the Indian tribes are mainly governed by the act of Congress passed in 1802, to regulate trade and intercourse with them, and to preserve peace on the frontiers. The boundary line, defined by that act, and to which its provisions were applicable, has been varied by subsequent treaties; and the increase of our population, and the extension of our settlements have effected changes calling for a revision of that act, that its provisions may be adapted to the present state of our Indian relations.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ELBERT HERRING.

To his excellency Lewis Cass, *Sec. of War.*

A.

ESTIMATE of sums required for the current expenses of the Indian Department, for the year 1832.

Item	Amount
For pay of the superintendent of Indian affairs, at St. Louis, and the several Indian agents, as authorized by law - -	$31,000
For pay of sub agents, as allowed by law - - -	19,500
For presents to Indians, as authorized by act of 1802 - -	15,000
For pay of Indian interpreters, and translators, employed at the several superintendencies and agencies - - -	21,525
For pay of gun and blacksmiths, and their assistants, employed within the several superintendencies and agencies, under treaty provisions, and the orders of the Department of War -	18,340
For iron, steel, coal and other expenses attending the gun and blacksmith's shops - - - - - - - -	5,426
For expense of transportation and distribution of Indian annuities	9,959
For expense of provisions for Indians at the distribution of annuities, while on visits of business with the different superintendents and agents, and when assembled on public business -	11,890
For expense attending the visits of such Indian deputations to the seat of Government, as it may be deemed necessary to authorize	10,000
For expense of building houses for Indian agents, sub-agents blacksmiths' shops; and repairs of the same when required in the several agencies - - - - - - -	7,000
For contingencies Indian Department - - - - -	20,000
	$169,640

Department of War,
Office Indian Affairs, November 1st, 1831.

B.

***STATEMENT** showing the amount of requisitions drawn in the Indian Department, between the first of January and thirtieth of September,* 1831; *the amount of accounts rendered for settlement; and balance to be accounted for.*

HEADS OF APPROPRIATION.	Amount of requisitions.	Amount of accounts rendered.	Balance.
Pay of Superintendent of Indian Affairs and Indian agents	$22,745 00	17,058 89	5,686 11
sub-agents	14,785 66	9,275 22	5,510 44
Presents to Indians	16,528 70	14,126 90	2,401 80
Pay of interpreters and translators	16,833 00	11,770 97	5,062 03
gun and blacksmiths, and their assistants	13,970 20	9,259 79	4,710 41
Iron, steel, coal, &c.	4,359 50	2,154 40	2,205 10
Transportation and distribution of annuities	7,262 80	4,077 73	3,185 07
Provisions for Indians at the distribution of annuities, &c.	8,361 25	7,975 60	385 65
Contingencies Indian Department	17,716 90	10,890 60	6,826 30
Expense of visits of Indians to the seat of Government, &c.	2,444 19	1,444 19	1,000 00
For carrying into effect certain Indian treaties, per act 2d March, 1829, Potawatamies	25 00	25 00	
For carrying into effect certain Indian treaties, per act 2d March, 1829, Cherokees	1,811 48	-	1,811 48
For carrying into effect certain Indian treaties, per act 20th May, 1826, re-appropriated 2d March, 1829	11,608 08	-	11,608 08
Indian annuities	158,978 32	141,568 40	17,409 92
For payment of claims against the Winnebagoes, per act 25th March, 1830	50 00	50 00	
For carrying into effect the treaty of Butte des Morts, per act 20th May, 1830	250 00	250 00	
For an exchange of lands with Indians, and for their removal west, &c., per act 28th May, 1830	70,384 12	7,816 84	62,567 28
For carrying into effect the Choctaw treaty of 11th October, 1820, re-appropriated 30th April, 1830	828 12	328 12	500 00
For carrying into effect certain Indian treaties, per act 13th January, 1831	37,437 75	3,558 75	33,879 00
For arrearages Indian Department	61,000 00	61,000 00	
For annuities to Seneca Indians, per act 19th February, 1831	8,614 40	8,614 40	
For carrying into effect certain Indian treaties, per act 2d March, 1831	33,580 00	-	33,580 00
For payment of buildings, &c., belonging to Dwight Mission, &c., per act 2d March, 1831	11,615 00	11,615 00	
For payment of Cherokee improvements abandoned, under treaty of 1828, per act 2d March, 1831	9,721 52	9,721 52	-
For payment for rifles delivered in 1829, &c., per act 2d March, 1831	6,600 00	6,600 00	
For carrying into effect certain Indian treaties with Sacs, Foxes, and others, per act 2d March, 1831	54,314 72	23,388 87	30,925 85
For carrying into effect certain Indian treaties with Delawares, per act 2d March, 1831	33,720 00	3,912 93	29,807 07
For carrying into effect certain Indian treaties with Choctaws, per act 2d March, 1831	11,300 15	11,300 15	
For carrying into effect the treaty with the Senecas, at Washington, of 28th February, 1831, per act 2d March, 1831	6,191 48	191 48	6,000 00
For building houses for sub-agents, &c., per act 2d March, 1831	2,800 00	116 00	2,684 00
For the extinguishment of claims of Cherokee lands in Georgia, re-appropriated, per act 2d March, 1831	545 12	545 12	
For carrying into effect Cherokee treaty of 6th May, 1828, re-appropriated, per act 2d March, 1831	29,168 47	29,168 47	
For civilization of Indians	6,402 81	6,402 81	
For payment to John Nicks, per act 3d March, 1831	2,562 08	2,562 08	
For payment to Duval and Carnes, per act 3d March, 1831	3,828 49	3,828 49	
	$688,344 31	$420,598 72	$267,745 59

28

RECAPITULATION.—Amount of requisitions drawn		$688,344 31
Amount of accounts rendered for settlement	$420,598 72	
Balance remaining to be accounted for	267,745 59	
		688,344 31

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, *November* 24, 1831.

C.

STATEMENT showing the number of Indian schools, where established, by whom, the number of teachers, &c., the number of pupils, and the amount allowed and paid to each by the Government; with remarks as to the prosperity &c. of the schools.

No.	Name of site and station.	By whom established:	No. of teachers.	No. of pupils	Amount paid by the Government.
1	Spring Place, Cherokee nation, Alabama, - -	United Brethren, - - -	5	10	250 00
2	Oochgeelogy, do - - - - -	do - - -	3	14	
3	Brainerd, E. Mississippi, - - - -	Am. Board of Com. Foreign Missions,	2	50	
4	Carmel, do - - - -	do do	1	30	
5	Creek Path, do - - - -	do do	1	31	
6	High Tower, do - - - -	do do	1	10	
7	Dwight, Cherokees, West, - - - -	do do	15	50	220 00
8	Tuscarora, New York - - - -	do do	1	45	220 00
9	Seneca, near Buffalo, New York, - - -	do do	8	45	220 00
10	Union, Osages, Arkansas, - - - -	do do	16	57	170 00
11	Harmony, Osages, Missouri, - - - -	do do	26	30	170 00
12	Monroe, Chickasaws, - - - -	do do	-	20	
13	Cataraugus, Senecas, N. Y. - - - -	do do	9	40	220 00
14	Goshen, - - - - - - -	do do	8	45	
15	Ai-ik-hun-nah, - - - - -	do do	3	24	
16	Williams' - - - - - - -	do do	2	4	
17	Tockshish, - - - - - - -	do do	3	22	
18	Colo. Folsom's, Choctaw nation, - - -	do do	1	12	
19	Cane Creek, - - - - - - -	do do	3	30	
20	Martyn, - - - - - - -	do do	2	27	
21	Hebron, - - - - - - -	do do	2	22	
22	Willstown, Cherokees, E. Mississippi, - -	do do	1	13	
23	Howies, do - - -	do do	1	10	
24	Candy's Creek, do - - -	do do	1	30	
25	Mulberry Settlement, Cherokees, W. Mississippi, -	do do	1	30	
26	Michilimackinac, - - - - - -	do do	3	157	350 00
27	Ottowas, Miami of the Lakes, - - -	do do	21	10	120 00
28	Carey, Pottawatamies, St. Joseph's, - - -	Baptist General Convention, - -	14	70	450 00
29	Thomas, Ottowas, Grand river, - - -	do do	8	20	
30	Valley Towns, Cherokees, E. Mississippi, - -	do do	3	20	600 00
31	Withington, Creek nation, - - - -	do do	6	16	450 00
32	Oneida, New York, - - - - - -	do do	5	28	300 00
33	Tonnawanda, do - - - - - -	do do	4	25	200 00
34	Wyandotts, Upper Sandusky, - - - -	Methodist Society, - - -	7	45	400 00
35	Asbury, Creek nation, - - - - -	do	9	22	150 00
36	Charity Hall, Chickasaws, - - - -	Cumberland Missionary Society, -	4	20	300 00
37	Florrissant, Missouri, - - - - -	Catholic, - - - - - -	4	14	400 00
38	Quoddy, Pleasant Point, Me. - - - -	Presbyt'n Soc. for propagating Gospel,	1	25	300 00
39	Castleton Academy, Vermont, - - - -	- - - - - - -	-	1	100 00
40	Baptist Institution, Hamilton, N. Y. - - - -	- - - - - - -	-	7	350 00
41	Kenyon College, Ohio, - - - - -	- - - - - - -	-	1	100 00
42	Choctaw Academy, Kentucky, - - - -	- - - - - - -	-	3	310 00
43	Oneida Castle, N. Y. - - - - -	Protestant Episcopal Church, -	3	30	300 00
				1,215	6,650 00

The number of children in the schools in the Indian country, and which receive aid from the civilization fund, is - - 1,215

Add the number of pupils at the Choctaw Academy, Kentucky, all of whom are educated from funds set apart for that purpose by the Indians themselves, - 113

1,328

But few of the annual reports for the present year having yet reached the department, no information in relation to the schools can be reported in addition to that embraced in the statement of last year.

The allowances to Sunday schools in the Choctaw nation having been discontinued, said schools are not included in this statement, which reduces the number of pupils 223, and which, if added to the number of pupils at the schools embraced in this statement, would make the whole number now receiving education in the Indian country and at the Choctaw Academy, 1,561.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR,
Office Indian Affairs, November 4th, 1831.

D.

Papers relating to the disturbances in the State of Illinois, by a band of the Sac Indians, headed by a brave called Black Hawk.

Gen. Clark to the Secretary of War.

SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
St. Louis, May 30, 1831.

SIR: On the 28th inst. I had the honor of receiving a letter from the Governor of Illinois, dated the 26th, informing me of the measures which he had considered it necessary to pursue for the protection of the citizens of his State from Indian invasion, and for the purpose of removing a band of Sacs then about Rock Island. A copy of his letter, and my answer, is herewith enclosed.

Deeming the information received from the Governor of Illinois important, I immediately communicated it to Gen. Gaines who happened to be in this place at the time; and shortly after, was called upon by Governor Reynolds himself, to whom I gave such information respecting the Sacs complained of, as had come to my knowledge; and also furnished him with such of the reports of the agent for those tribes as had relation to the subject. To the commanding General, I furnished similar information; and, also, for the purpose of possessing him of the views of the Government on that subject, I gave him copies of such of my correspondence with the War Department as had any relation thereto.

I also enclose to you copies of two reports of the agent for the Sacs and Foxes of the 15th and 28th inst. By the first, it will be seen that the band complained of is determined to keep possession of their old village; and it is probably from a knowledge of the disposition evinced in this matter by

the Sacs, and for the purpose of dispossessing them, that the commanding General has thought proper to make a display in that quarter of a part of the force under his command, six companies of which are now leaving this place for Rock river.

This expedition (be the result what it may) cannot fail producing good effects, even should the Indians be disposed to remove peaceably to their own lands; and if not, their opposition should, in my opinion, be put down at once.

I have the honor to be,
With high respect,
Your most obd't. servant,
WM. CLARK.

The Hon. JOHN H. EATON, *Secretary of War.*

Governor Reynolds to General Clark.

BELLEVILLE, *26th May*, 1831.

SIR: In order to protect the citizens of this State who reside near Rock Island from Indian invasion and depredation, I have considered it necessary to call out a force of militia of this State, of about seven hundred strong, to remove a band of the Sac Indians who are now about Rock Island. The object of the Government of the State is to protect those citizens by removing said Indians peaceably if they can, but forcibly if they must. Those Indians are now, and so I have considered them, in a state of actual invasion of the State.

As you act as the general agent of the United States in relation to those Indians, I considered it my duty to inform you of the above call on the militia, and that, in or about fifteen days, a sufficient force will appear before said Indians to remove them, dead or alive, over to the west side of the Mississippi; but to save all this disagreeable business, perhaps a request from you to them, for them to remove to the west side of the river, would effect the object of procuring peace to the citizens of the State. There is no disposition on the part of the people of this State to injure those unfortunate and deluded savages, if they will let us alone; but a government that does not protect its citizens deserves not the name of a government.

Please correspond with me to this place on this subject.

Your obd't. servant,
JOHN REYNOLDS.

Gen. CLARK, *Superintendent, &c.*

General Clark to Governor Reynolds.

SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
St. Louis, May 28, 1831.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th inst. informing me of your having considered it necessary to call out a force of militia of about seven hundred, for the protection of the citizens of

Illinois who reside near Rock Island, from Indian invasion, and for the purpose of removing a band of Sac Indians who are now about Rock Island, &c.

You intimate that to prevent the necessity of employing this force, perhaps a request from me to those Indians to remove to the west side of the Mississippi, would effect the object of procuring peace to the citizens of your State. In answer to which, I would beg leave to observe, that every effort on my part has been made to effect the removal of *all* those tribes who had ceded their lands. For the purpose of affording you a view (in part) of what has been done in this matter, I enclose you herewith extracts from the reports of the agents for the Sacs and Foxes; by which it will be seen that every mean short of actual force has been employed to effect their removal.

I have communicated the contents of your letter to General Gaines, who commands the western division of the army, and who has full power to execute any military movement deemed necessary for the protection of the frontier. I shall also furnish him with such information regarding the Sacs and Foxes as I am possessed of, and would beg leave to refer you to him for any further proceedings in relation to this subject.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your obd't servant,
WM. CLARK.

His excellency JOHN REYNOLDS,
Governor of the State of Illinois.

F. St. Vrain to General Clark.

ROCK ISLAND, *May* 15, 1831.

RESPECTED SIR: I have again to mention to you that the Black Hawk (a Sac chief) and his party are now at their old village on Rock river. They have commenced planting corn, and say they will keep possession. I have been informed that they had pulled down a house and some fences, which they have burned. They have also turned their horses in wheat fields, and say they will destroy the wheat, so that the white people shall not remain among them.

This is what I expected from their manner of acting last fall, and which I mentioned to you in my letter of the 8th October last. I would not be at a loss were it not for the 7th article of the treaty with the Sacs and Foxes of 3d November, 1804.

I respectfully ask, would it not be better to hold a treaty with those Indians, and get them to remove peaceably, than to call on the military to force them off? None of this band have as yet called on me for information. A few have been at my agency to have work done at the smiths' shops.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
FELIX ST. VRAIN,
Indian Agent.

Gen. WM. CLARK,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

F. St. Vrain to General Clark.

St. Louis, *May* 28, 1831.

Respected Sir: Since my last of the 15th inst., on the subject of the band of Sac Indians occupying the Indian village on Rock river, near Rock Island, I have heard from the Indians and some of the whites, that a house had been unroofed instead of pulled down and burned, and that the fence had caught fire by accident. As regards the destroying the wheat, &c. the Indians say that a white man hauled some timber through a field, and left the fence down, by which means their horses got into the field. This, however, has been contradicted by the white inhabitants of that place. They say that the Indians are constantly troubling them, by letting their horses into their fields, and killing their hogs, &c. &c. This, however, I am confident is occasioned, in a great measure, by whiskey being given to the Indians in exchange for their guns, traps, &c.

I had a talk with the principal chief and braves of that band of Indians. The chief I spoke to is the Black Thunder, who is the principal of that band. The Black Hawk is only a Brave, but has considerable influence with them. I told them that they had sold those lands to the Government of the United States, and that they ought to remove to their own lands. They then said that they had only sold the lands south of the river. I then produced the treaties, and explained to them that they had relinquished their right as far as the Ouisconsin. Quashquamee (the Jumping Fish) then said that he had only consented to the limits being Rock river, but that a Fox chief agreed (as he understood afterwards) for the Ouisconsin; that he (Quashquamee) had been deceived, and that he did not intend it to be so.

I had considerable talk with them on this subject, and could discover nothing hostile in their disposition, unless their decided conviction of their right to the place could be construed as such.

I have been informed that a white man and his family had gone to an Indian village on the borders of Rock river, about forty miles from Rock Island, for the purpose of establishing a ferry, and that the Indians at that place had driven them away, at the same time saying to them that they would not hurt them, but they should not live there. This village is occupied by a mixture of Winnebago, Sac and Fox band, and headed by the Prophet, a chief.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
FELIX ST. VRAIN,
Indian Agent.

Gen. Wm. Clark,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

General Clark to General Gaines.

Superintendency of Indian Affairs,
St. Louis, May 28, 1831.

Sir: I have the honor to enclose to you a copy of a letter of 26th inst. just received from the Governor of Illinois, by which you will perceive he has thought it necessary to call out a force of about seven hundred militia for the protection of the citizens of that State, who reside near Rock river.

and for the purpose of removing a band of Sacs which he states are now about Rock Island.

As the commanding General of this division of the army, I have thought it my duty to communicate to you the above information; and for the purpose of putting you in possession of the views of the Government in relation to this subject, as well as to inform you of the means which have been heretofore employed for the removal of the Sacs now complained of, I enclose to you herewith, copies of my correspondence with the War Department, and with the agent for those tribes—also extracts from such of their reports as had immediate relation to the subject.

The Sacs and Foxes have been counselled with on the subject of their removal from the lands which they had ceded to the United States. The prospect of collisions with the white settlers who were then purchasing those lands, and the interminable difficulties in which they would be involved thereby, were pointed out, and had the effect of convincing a large majority of both tribes, of the impropriety of remaining at their old villages. They therefore acquiesced in the justice of the claim of the United States, and expressed their willingness to comply with my request to remove to their new village on the Ioway river, west of the Mississippi, all but parts of two bands, headed by two inconsiderable chiefs, who, after abandoning their old village, have, it appears, returned again in defiance of all consequences.

Those bands are distinguished and known by the name of "The British Party," having been for many years in the habit of making annual visits at Malden in Upper Canada, for the purpose of receiving their presents; and it is believed to be owing, in a great measure, to the counsels they have there received, that so little influence has been acquired over them by the United States' agents.

In justice to Keokuck, Wapalon, the Stabbing Chief, and indeed all the other real chiefs and principal men of both tribes, it should be observed that they have constantly and zealously co-operated with the Government agents in furtherance of its views, and in their endeavors to effect the removal of all their people from the ceded lands.

Any information in my possession, which you may deem necessary in relation to this subject, will be promptly afforded.

With high respect,
I have the honor to be,
Your most ob't servant,
WM. CLARK.

Major General EDMUND P. GAINES,
Commanding western department United States' army.

P. S. The agent for the Sacs and Foxes (Mr. St. Vrain) has received his instructions, and will perform any services you may require of him with the Sacs and Foxes.

Extract from Mr. Forsyth to General Clark.

ROCKY ISLAND, 17*th May*, 1829.

SIR: Some time early in the spring, a number of settlers came to the Sac village on Rock river, and enclosed nearly all the Sac Indians' corn-fields.

the Indians on their arrival were surprised at this, as also the destruction committed by the settlers, by tearing down many of their lodges.

The settlers who reside at the Sac village, have called on me frequently, wishing me to drive the Indians away; that they must go; ought to go, pointing out the necessity of sending them away, &c. &c.

I yesterday had a meeting with a number of Indians, and had a very long talk with them on the subject of all the Indians moving on to their own lands.

Quashquamee denying that he ever sold any land above Rocky river, &c.; the Black Hawk also saying that the white people were in the habit of saying one thing to the Indians, and putting another on paper; and both those Indians made use of every argument they were master of, to convince me that they never had sold the land above Rocky river, &c.

I acquainted all the Indians then present, of the treaty of 1804, where Quashquamee's name is, as one of the chiefs who sold the land in question (the other chiefs being dead). I also reminded the Black Hawk of the treaty of 1816, when the commissioners refused to smoke with him, and the other Sca chiefs (who accompanied him down to St. Louis) to make peace, until they signed the treaty, &c.

The Black Hawk denied that any mention was made to him about land in making the treaty of 1816, but that the commissioners must have inserted in the treaty what was not explained to him and friends.

The Indians and myself had a great deel of talk at this meeting, the most of which was quite unnecessary; at the winding up of which, I told the Indians I would not listen to any complaints that might come in future from any Indians who would remain at Rocky river.

The chief Keocuck enquired of me in private, if he and some of his friends could remain at Rocky river, to raise the corn they had planted, saying, at the same time, that most of the principal chiefs and braves had gone to reside at a place a few miles within the mouth of Ioway river, and that more than half of those now at Rocky river, would also go shortly to the same place.

I told Keocuck that he had heard what I had said to the Indians in council, and that it was out of my power, to give any Indians such permission as he asked for.

It is my opinion that but few Indians will remain at Rock river this summer, but yet I am fearful that some difficulty will take place among them and the settlers during the ensuing summer.

All the Fox Indians formerly residing in this vicinity have gone, and made a new village at the Grand Mascatin.

Gen. Clark to the Secretary of War.

Superintendency of Indian Affairs,
St. Louis, July 6th, 1831.

Sir: Gen. Gaines has removed the band of Sacs (called the British Band,) to the west of the Mississippi, and returned this morning with his regular troops to this place.

The Indians of this band were, it appears, very insolent, depending upon an increase to their number from the discontented parts of the Kickapoos.

Pottawatamies and Winnebagoes within the State of Illinois. They exhibited a daring opposition to Gen. Gaines' regular force, until the near approach of 1400 mounted volunteers, at which time, I am informed, their allies abandoned them. They then crossed the Mississippi, and sent a flag to the General requesting terms, &c.

This show of force, with the cool and determined course pursued towards this disaffected band of Sacs, has produced the desired effect; and, I have no doubt, will tend to convince the disaffected parts of tribes on this frontier, of the folly of their opposition to the United States without a just cause.

It will, in my opinion, be necessary for a strict watch to be kept over this discontented band of Sacs, as well to prevent any acquisition to their numbers (of disaffected Sacs,) as to prevent difficulties between them and our northern and western frontier settlers.

I have the honor to be,
With high respect,
Your most ob't servant,
WM. CLARK.

The Hon. JOHN H. EATON,
Secretary of War.

Gen. Gaines to the Secretary of War.

HEAD QUARTERS, WESTERN DEPARTMENT,
St. Louis, 6th July, 1831.

SIR: Having been joined on the 25th ultimo, by his excellency Governor Reynolds, with General Joseph Duncan's brigade of Illinois mounted volunteers, I, on the following morning, took possession of the Sac village, previously occupied by the British band of Sac Indians.

The appearance of the mounted volunteers on the one side, and the regular troops, with two pieces of artillery, on the other, aided by a steamboat armed with a piece of artillery, and some musquetry and riflemen, induced these Indians to abandon the village previous to our arrival, and without firing a gun. Deserted by their allies, this disorderly band was left alone to seek security in a precipitate flight to the right bank of the Mississippi, where they were found the next day under the protection of a white flag. They immediately sued for peace; whereupon the enclosed articles of agreement and capitulation were entered into and signed.

His excellency Governor Reynolds, very cordially co-operated with me in this measure; and he unites with me in the opinion that the chastisement which a part of these Indians merited, could not have been inflicted, without subjecting many of the innocent frontier settlers, as well as some of the unoffending Indians, to indiscriminate ruin and destruction; and we are of the opinion that these Indians are as completely humbled, as if they had been chastised in battle; and that they are less disposed to disturb the frontier inhabitants.

I shall take an early occasion to collect and submit for the information of the President, such facts as have been ascertained to exist touching the extensive alliances which these Indians had endeavored to form against our frontier inhabitants.

EDMUND P. GAINES.

Hon. HUGH L. WHITE,
Secretary of War.

Articles of Capitulation, &c.

Articles of agreement and capitulation made and concluded this thirtieth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, between E. P. Gaines, Major General of the United States' Army, on the part of the United States; John Reynolds, Governor of Illinois, on the part of the State of Illinois; and the Chiefs and Braves of the band of Sac Indians, usually called "the British band of Rock river," with their old allies, the Pottawatamie, Winnebago, and Kickapoo nations,

Witnesseth, That, whereas the said British band of Sac Indians, have, in violation of several treaties entered into between the United States and the Sac and Fox nations, in the years 1804, 1816, and 1825, continue to remain upon and to cultivate the lands on Rock river ceded to the United States by the said treaties, after the said lands had been sold by the United States to individual citizens of Illinois and other States; and whereas the said British band of Sac Indians, in order to sustain their pretensions to continue upon the said Rock river lands, have assumed the attitude of actual hostility towards the United States, and have had the audacity to drive citizens of the State of Illinois from their homes, to destroy their corn, and to invite many of their old friends of the Pottawatamies, Winnebagoes, and Kickapoos, to unite with them (the said British band of Sacs) in war, to prevent their removal from the said lands; and whereas, many of the most disorderly of these several tribes of Indians, did actually join the said British band of Sac Indians, prepared for war against the United States, and more particularly against the State of Illinois, from which purpose they confess that nothing would have restrained them, but the appearance of forces far exceeding the combined strength of the said British band of Sac Indians, with such of their aforesaid allies as had actually joined them.

But being now convinced that such a war would tend speedily to annihilate them, they have voluntarily abandoned their hostile attitude and have sued for peace.

1st. Peace is therefore give to them upon the following conditions, to which the said British band of Sac Indians, with their aforesaid allies, do agree; and for the faithful execution of which the undersigned Chiefs and Braves of the said band and their allies mutually bind themselves, their heirs, and assigns forever.

2d. The British band of Sac Indians are required peaceably to submit to the authority of the friendly Chiefs and Braves of the united Sac and Fox nation, and at all times hereafter to reside and hunt with them upon their own lands west of the Mississippi river, and to be obedient to their laws and treaties: and no one or more of the said band shall ever be permitted to recross this river to the place of their usual residence, nor to any part of their old hunting grounds east of the Mississippi, without the express permission of the President of the United States, or the Governor of the State of Illinois.

3d. The United States will guarantee to the united Sac and Fox nation, including the said British band of Sac Indians, the integrity of all the lands claimed by them westward of the Mississippi river, pursuant to the treaties of the years 1825 and 1830.

4th. The United States require the united Sac and Fox nation, including the aforesaid British band, to abandon all communication, and cease to hold any intercourse, with any British post, garrison, or town; and never again to admit among them, any agent or trader who shall not have derived

his authority to hold commercial or other intercourse with them, by license, from the President of the United States or his authorized agent.

5th. The United States demand an acknowledgment of their right to establish military posts and roads within the limits of the said country, guaranteed by the 3d article of this agreement and capitulation, for the protection of the frontier inhabitants.

6th. It is further required by the United States, that the principal friendly chiefs and headmen of the Sacs and Foxes, bind themselves to enforce, as far as may be in their power, the strict observance of each and every article of this agreement and capitulation; and at any time they may find themselves unable to restrain their allies, the Pottawatamies, Kickapoos or Winnebagoes, to give immediate information thereof to the nearest military post.

7th. And it is finally agreed by the contracting parties, that, henceforth permanent peace and friendship be established between the United States and the aforesaid band of Indians.

In witness whereof, we have set our hands, the day and date above mentioned.

EDMUND P. GAINES,
Major General by Bvt. Com'dg.
JOHN REYNOLDS,
Governor of the State of Illinois.

CHIEFS.

Pashepaho,	Stabbing Chief,	his x mark.
Wushut,	Sturgeon Head,	his x mark.
Chakeepaxhepaho,	Little Stabbing Chief,	his x mark.
Chickakalako,	Turtle Shell,	his x mark.
Pemesee,	the one that flies,	his x mark.

WARRIORS OR BRAVES.

Macala-michicatak,	the Black Hawk,	his x mark.
Menacon,	the Seed,	his x mark.
Kakekamah,	all Fish,	his x mark.
Neepeek,	Water,	his x mark.
Asamesaw,	the one that flies too fast,	his x mark.
Pansenanee,	Pauneeman,	his x mark.
Wawapolasa,	White Walker,	his x mark.
Wapaquat,	White Hare,	his x mark.
Keosatah,	Walker,	his x mark.

FOX CHIEFS.

Wapala,	the Prince,	his x mark.
Keeteesee,	the Eagle,	his x mark.
Pawesheek,	one that sifts through,	his x mark.
Namee,	one that has gone,	his x mark.

FOX BRAVES OR WARRIORS.

Allotah,	Morgan,	his x mark.
Kakakew,	the Crow,	his x mark.
Sheshequanas,	Little Gourd,	his x mark.
Koekoskee,		his x mark.
Takona,	the Prisoner,	his x mark.
Nakiskawa,	the one that meets,	his x mark.
Pamaketah,	the one that stands about,	his x mark.

Topokia,	the Night,	his x mark.
Molansat,	the one that has his hair pulled out,	his x mark.
Kakemekapeo,	sitting in the grease,	his x mark.

Witnesses,

Joseph M. Street, *U. S. Indian Agent at Praire du Chien.*
W. Morgan, *Colonel 1st Infantry.*
J. Bliss, *Brevet Major 3d Infantry.*
Geo. A. M'Call, *aid-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Gaines.*
Saml. Whiteside,
Felix St. Vrain, *Indian Agent.*
Jno S. Greathouse,
M. E. Alexander,
A. S. West,
Antoine St. Claire, *Interpreter.*
Jos. Danforth,
Dan. S. Witter,
Benj. F. Pike.

Governor of Illinois to the Secretary of War.

BELLEVILLE, *Illinois, 7th July,* 1831.

SIR: I consider it my duty to inform you of the late Indian hostilities, and of the measures which were adopted to repress them.

The Indians, with some exceptions, from Canada to Mexico, along the northern frontier of the United States, are more hostile to the whites than at any other period since the last war. Particularly the band of Sac Indians usually and truly called "the British band," became extremely unfriendly to the citizens of Illinois and others. This band had determined for some years past to remain, at all hazards, on certain lands which had been purchased by the United States, and, afterwards, some of them sold to private individuals by the General Government. They also determined to drive off the citizens from this disputed territory. In order to effect this object, they committed various outrages on the persons and property of the citizens of this State.

That this band might the more effectually resist all force that would be employed against them, they treated with many other tribes to combine together for the purpose of aiding this British band to continue in possession of the country in question.

These facts and circumstances being known to the frontier inhabitants, they became much alarmed, and many of them abandoned their homes and habitations.

In this situation of affairs, I considered the State to be "actually invaded," and the country in "imminent danger," so much so, that I immediately called on part of the militia nearest the disputed territory, to be ready to march to repel said invasion, and to restore peace to the frontier. I informed Gen. Gaines of the situation of the State, and of my preparatory movements. After the General became acquainted with the numbers and disposition of the Indians, and the exposed situation of the frontier, he very rightly determined on making a requisition on me for a number of mounted militia. These mounted volunteers whom I had organized for the same purpose, cheerfully marched at the call of the United States.

The great extent of the frontier from lake Michigan to the Mississippi in

this State, including part of the mineral country, made it *necessary* to have the service of mounted men to protect the citizens. There are great numbers of Indians who reside near the northern border of this State, and it was probable, that all might be joined in a war.

I have no hesitation in stating, that it was necessary to make the call, and that a considerable number of mounted men ought to be employed in this service.

It has been the case, in many military operations, that a sufficient force has not been in the first instance employed, and the consequence has been disaster and defeat. This was not the case in this military movement. A sufficient force of mounted men was immediately called into the field. This efficient and bold movement intimidated the Indians, and compelled them to abandon their hostile attitude without bloodshed, whereas a small number of mounted men would probably have led on to a general war.

Thus I have presented to you the general outlines of this military movement, which has terminated so fortunately to all concerned.

In the council, or treaty with the Indians, Gen. Gaines requested me to be associated with him as a commissioner. You will see by the agreement, that the Indians are to remain in future on the west side of the Mississippi. The policy to separate them from the whites is the only sure course to preserve peace with them.

There is a village of bad Indians on Rock river, about thirty miles from its mouth, whom I would recommend to you to have moved to the west side of the Mississippi. This may save a great deal of trouble; as, I do assure you, that if I am again compelled to call on the militia of this State, I will place in the field such force as will exterminate all Indians who will not let us alone.

I have the honor to be,
Your obd't. servant,
JOHN REYNOLDS.

To the Hon. the SECRETARY *of the Department of War.*

Governor of Illinois to the President of the United States.

BELLEVILLE, *August* 2, 1831.

SIR: This day I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 16th ultimo, and, I presume, such information as will be a complete answer to it has long since been laid before you, so that it is useless for me to trouble you again with a recapitulation.

I had the honor of addressing a letter, dated 7th July last, to the Secretary of the Department of War, and to which I would refer your excellency, on the subject of the necessity of the call on the militia, and the force necessary to be employed in the expedition to Rock river against the Indians.

During the whole Indian disturbance, it was almost impossible to ascertain the exact number of Indians who were determined to fight. In this situation, I deemed it my duty to call out such force, and to be with them myself, as could not be overpowered by any number of Indians on the frontier.

I considered it proper, for the protection of the frontier, and to chastise the insolent and hostile savage with *speed*, to furnish Gen. Gaines with the force I did, on the requisition he made to me.

Since the return of the militia, I have been petitioned by the citizens to remove a small number of Indians who were doing damage to the property

of the white people. I informed the Superintendent in St. Louis of it, and he has sent an agent to request the Indians to leave the State. The people in the northern section of the State are much annoyed with the Indians. and will be, until they are settled on the west side of the Mississippi, on their own lands. The policy of the present Administration of the General Government to remove the Indians west of the Mississippi, is correct; and I will support it all in my power. It is much better for the Indians to live separate and apart from the white people.

For the good of all concerned, I would respectfully suggest to you the propriety of removing all the Indians in the State of Illinois to the west of the Mississippi. This ought to be effected in a peaceable manner, and could be, if the proper measures were taken with them. I am informed that the impression made on the Indians is, that the United States will protect them in living and hunting in the State. If they were informed that the State had the power from the General Government, or otherwise, to remove them, they would, in my opinion, go off, of their own accord, in peace.

For the good of the public, I would be much pleased to receive a communication of the views of the General Government in relation to the Indians within the State.

With sincere regard for you and your administration,

I am, your obedient servant,

JOHN REYNOLDS.

To the President *of the U. States.*

General Clark to the Secretary of War.

Superintendency of Indian Affairs,

St. Louis, Aug. 9, 1831.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d ult. with the copy of one forwarded *direct* to Gen. Street and other agents, with a view of obtaining the earliest information as to the causes of the recent difficulties with the Sacs and Foxes, and other tribes, &c. and shall, in a day or two, furnish such information on the subject of your inquiries as the records of this office will enable me to present, and which will necessarily embrace the substance of the information heretofore communicated to the department. In the mean time, I herewith transmit to you a copy of a letter of the 1st inst., (received since the departure of yesterday's mail) from Gen. Street, informing me of the murder of 25 Menomonies, by a war party of Sacs and Foxes, which took place near the old fort at Prairie du Chien, on the night of the 31st ult. Also a copy of a letter just received from Maj. Dougherty, stating that three parties of Sacs were moving in the direction of the Sioux, Ottoes, and Omahas, being in quest of those tribes.

From every circumstance connected with the murder of the Menomonies, I am inclined to believe that the British party of Sacs and Foxes have encouraged and probably joined in this daring act; which I hope will receive, as it justly deserves, the most prompt chastisement which this insulted Government can inflict.

I shall consider it my duty to direct the agent of the offending tribes to demand of them the immediate delivery of the individuals concerned in this outrageous violation of the peace of Prairie du Chien, and will await the in-

structions of the department as to any future measures to be taken in relation to this matter.

With high respect, I have the honor to be, your most obd't serv't.

WM. CLARK.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Washington City.

P. S. The disaffected part of the Kickapoos who were supposed to have been in the interest of the Sacs engaged in the late disturbances, have gone over and joined them on the west side of the Mississippi ; and the Winnebagoes of the Prophet's village are now moving over to join the same party.

Gen. Street to Gen. Clark.

UNITED STATES' INDIAN AGENCY,
at Prairie du Chien, August 1st, 1831.

SIR : One year had scarcely elapsed after the sealing the treaty of 1830 at this place, before one of the parties have broken its solemn engagements, and dyed the scene of the ratification in the blood of those Indians whom they took by the hand in the presence of their Great Father's commissioners.

Two or three hours before day, on the morning of the 31st July, a party, consisting of eighty or one hundred Sacs and Foxes, surprized a Menomonie camp, three or four hundred paces above old fort Crawford, on the east side of the Mississippi, and killed twenty-five of the latter, and wounded many who may probably recover. There were about thirty or forty Menomonies, men, women and children in the camp, most of whom were drunk, and the women had hidden their guns and knives, to prevent their hurting each other. The Sacs and Foxes, though so greatly superior in numbers, and attacking by surprise a drunken and unarmed encampment, lost several men, who were seen to fall in the onset, and retreated in less than ten minutes with only a few scalps, pursued by four or five Menomonies, who fired on them until they were half a mile below the village. I received information, and was on the ground in an hour and a half after the murders were committed. The butchery was horrid, and the view can only be imagined by those acquainted with savage warfare.

At seven o'clock A. M. I addressed the letter marked A to the officer commanding at fort Crawford, giving him the first intimation of the massacre, and received in answer his letter of this date, marked B.

Lieut. Lamotte, stationed on the west bank of the Mississippi, two miles below Prairie du Chien, saw the Indians pass up about nine o'clock, P. M. the night the murders were committed, and again saw them descend with great rapidity at day light the next morning.

An express was despatched by the commanding officer here, to Rock Island, at two o'clock on the day of the murders; but no other steps to arrest these daring violators of the provisions of the treaty of July 1830, have, as I believe, been taken.

To-day, the remaining Menomonies asked to speak to me, and I met them accordingly. They complain of the violation of the treaty, and say they have fallen victims to their confidence in the security that was promised them, under the sanctions of a treaty made in the presence of their Fath-

ers, Gen. Clark and Col. Morgan. That Col. Morgan promised them a free and secure path to this place; and that if they were struck, he would march an army of his warriors into the country of those who struck them with their warriors, and take man for man of their enemies. They say they have lost many of their bravest men. "One of our chiefs has lost all his family; his wife and his children and his brother were all murdered, and he is left alone. He is not here, he is in his lodge mourning." They added, "Take pity on our women and our orphan children, and give us something to console us, and we will wait awhile to see if our great father, whom you tell us is strong, will help us to punish these Sacs and Foxes, who shake hands and smoke the pipe of peace to-day, and to-morrow break it, and kill those they smoked with."

Under existing circumstances, I deemed it prudent and humane to give them a few things, and to provide some necessaries for the destitute children, the amount of which I will forward by mail. I also promised to lay the affair before their great father, the President, and ask him to have justice done for them agreeably to their treaty, if they would go into their country and remain quiet. They have promised to do so a short time. Yet I learn from other sources that runners have been despatched to Green Bay and among the Sioux.

The Menomonies also complain that they were promised that if they would be quiet their great father would see justice done between them and the Chippeways. That nothing is done, nor are their dead covered. They remarked, "Shall were main quiet on the faith of our Great Father until we are all killed? When will our great father answer us?"

They inform me that a white man (a discharged soldier from St. Peter's) had killed a Menomonie a few days past. On inquiry, I learned that the white man had a fight with two Indians, and in the fight he struck the Indian on the head with a stick, and fractured his scull; and he died the day after. There is no white person who can testify any thing about it; and the white man has gone off I know not where.

I have received no answer to my letters respecting the murder of the Menomonies by the Chippeways, and am unable to satisfy them on that subject. I now hope, that, on the present representation of facts, the Government will feel the necessity of a prompt interference, to save this frontier from a general rupture.

The pacification of July 1830 has been violated under the guns of fort Crawford; and if some immediate course is not taken to chastise these violators of that solemn arrangement, the influence of the officers of the United States will be destroyed, and the power of the Government disregarded by the Indians.

Respectfully, &c. &c.

JOS. M. STREET, *Indian Agent*

Gen. William Clark,

Superintendent of Indian Affairs at St. Louis.

General Street to Captain Loomis.

U. S. Indian Agency at Prairie du Chien,

July 31, 1831, 7 o'clock A. M.

Sir: After a personal inspection of the scene of massacre, I hasten to inform you, that, last night, the Sacs and Foxes struck the Menomonies,

encamped on the east side of the Mississippi about three or four hundred paces above old fort Crawford, and killed twenty-four of the latter, butchering them in a most shocking manner.

The Sacs and Foxes came up, and left their canoes just above the old fort, and completely surprised the Menomonies, who, under the sanctions of the peace of 1830 at this place, and their vicinity to the fort, were unsuspicious of danger.

The attack was made about two hours before day, and the assailants were gone before light.

So daring a violation of the treaty of July, 1830, made at this village, and within cannon shot of the fort, evinces a spirit little in accordance with its humane and pacific object.

I am, also, this moment informed, that runners will be immediately despatched by the Menomonies to Green Bay and to the Sioux.

I shall be at Judge Lockwood's during the day.

Respectfully yours, &c.
JOSEPH M. STREET,
U. S. Indian Agent.

To Capt. G. Loomis,
Commanding Fort Crawford.

Captain Loomis to General Street.

Fort Crawford, M. T., 1*st August*, 1831.

Sir: I received your note of the 31st July, 1831, informing me "that the Sacs and Foxes struck the Menomonies encamped on the east side of the Mississippi about three or four hundred paces above old fort Crawford, and killed twenty-four of the latter, butchering them in a most shocking manner."

I very much regret this occurrence should have taken place.

If I had received information of the intention of the hostile Indians in time, I should have interfered to prevent it, even with the troops under my command, if it had been necessary.

The approach and attack of the hostile Indians upon the Menomonies were so silent, the weapons used being chiefly the tomahawk, spear, and scalping knife, that this garrison, distant about two miles from the scene of slaughter, was not alarmed.

If I could seize upon any of the murderers, I should do so, and hold them in confinement until the orders of the commanding general western department, should be received upon the subject.

I have, by an express, informed the commanding officer of Fort Armstrong, at Rock island, of the destruction of the Menomonies.

I shall, by the earliest opportunity, notify the commanding general of he western department of the savage occurrence.

In the mean time, it will give me great satisfaction, to co-operate with you in any measures of benevolence (consistent with my situation) to prevent the further waste of human blood, or in any way calculated to further the views of the Government with regard to the Indian tribes.

With respect, &c. &c.
G. LOOMIS, *Captain,*
1*st Regt. commanding.*

Gen. Jos. M. Street,
U. S. Indian Agent, Prairie du Chien.

Major Dougherty to General Clark.

CANTONMENT LEAVENWORTH,
July 29, 1831.

SIR: Last night two young men of the Ioway tribe arrived at this post on express, for the purpose of informing me that about 120 Sacs from the Mississippi, in three different war parties, were on their way up the Missouri, in search of the Ottoes, Omahas, or Sioux. I immediately sent off a runner to apprise all the Indians above this, and put them on their guard. One of these parties passed the Ioway village, proceeded on, and crossed the Missouri at the Black Snake hills, and are now on this side somewhere above this place. Four men of this last party turned back from the Ioway village, and bore off with them two horses belonging to one of our citizens, of Clay county. I understand the whites have pursued them.

On the 21st instant, 32 Sacs from Rock river passed this post, on their way to the Osage towns. They were accompanied by two Osages, one of whom called himself the son of Clament. I think it highly probable that these Rock river Sacs will give us much trouble in this quarter.

I have the honor, &c.
JOHN DOUGHERTY,
Indian Agent

To Gen. WM. CLARK,
Sup't Indian Affairs.

Henry Gratiot, subagent, to S. S. Hamilton.

GRATIOT'S GROVE,
21*st August*, 1831.

SIR: I received your letter of 22d ult. by last mail, in which you say, that "for the purpose of obtaining full and accurate information of the causes which led to the hostile proceedings of the Sacs and Foxes, Winnebagoes, and other tribes that may be engaged therein, against the peaceful citizens of the State of Illinois, I am instructed by the President to require you forthwith to report to this department all the facts and circumstances in your possession connected with the subject, with the reasons which have prevented you from timely reporting the hostile movements of these Indians to the Government."

In answer thereto, permit me to observe, in the first place, that the "British band of Sac Indians," so called, are not within my agency; and I did not know of any intention on their part to commit any act of hostility, either against the citizens of the State of Illinois, or of the United States, until I received a communication from Gen. Gaines, dated 5th June, at Rock island, in which he advised me of the movements of the hostile Indians, and says "a report has this morning reached me, that they have sent for certain Indians of your agency to join them, to wit, the Prophet's band of Winnebagoes on Rock river, with some Pottawatamies and Kickapoos. Should you obtain any information on this subject, you will please communicate it to Capt. Legate, who will send to me by express."

I immediately repaired to Rock island, to aid and assist in restoring peace. I went from there to visit the Indians of Black Hawk's band, where I found the Prophet, and did all in my power to advise him and Black Hawk and his band to remove, and abandon his unfriendly dispositions against the United States. Upon my return to Rock island, I informed Gen. Gaines by letter of the result of my visit, and beg leave to refer you to a copy of that letter.

While at Rock island, I received a letter from Gen. Clark, superintendent at St. Louis, requesting me to report myself to Gen. Gaines, and to assist in quelling the disturbance. You will perceive what I had already done towards this duty. I afterwards went up Rock river about 150 miles, and visited the Indians in my agency, and found them perfectly peaceable, and not at all disposed to join Black Hawk; and when I returned to Rock island, I found peace had been restored, as you have already been informed by Gen. Gaines. Previous to my departure to visit the Indians of my agency, I received an answer to my letter to him, a copy of which I beg leave to forward for your satisfaction.

From what I have said, you will at once see, that, until apprised by Gen. Gaines, as before mentioned, I knew of no hostile movements of the Indians referred to, and of course could make no report to the Government on the subject; for I should have certainly lost no time in reporting that and all other matters of interest to the department.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Yours, &c.
HENRY GRATIOT,
Subagent of Winnebagoes on Rock river.

To. Maj. SAM. S. HAMILTON,
Indian Department.

H. Gratiot to Gen. Gaines, and the General's answer.

ROCK ISLAND, *June* 12, 1831.

SIR: I have the honor to repeat to you, that, agreeably to my intimation to you, I visited the village of Sac Indians near this place yesterday, for the purpose of persuading off the Winnebago Prophet, and some young men of his band, whom I knew had previously been there, and I believe with an intention to support the Sac Indians. I found that the Prophet had just left there for his village, which is within my agency upon Rock river; and although he had previously promised that he would return home and remain there, I have reason to believe that his object is to get as many of his band and of the other bands of the Winnebagoes (who reside at Rock river within my agency) as he can, for the purpose of joining the Sacs, and of supporting them in their present pretensions.

I have recently been at some of the principal villages of Winnebagoes within my agency, and have ascertained, from unquestionable authority, that, although they had been invited to join the Sacs, they have refused to do so. I think it will be prudent for me to follow the Prophet, to prevent him from influencing any of the Indians up the Rock river to join him. Should I, however, find that any of the warriors have left before my arrival

amongst them, I will (if you think it best) return immediately to this place, bringing with me three or four influential chiefs, who can be relied on, and who will, with my assistance, I think, be able to control them.

In my opinion, there are at least four hundred warriors at the Sac village which I visited yesterday, apparently determined to defend themselves in their present position. On the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst. I immediately hastened to this place, with a view to give you the most satisfactory information upon the subject of it, and tender my services in any way which you may think useful.

I am respectfully yours,

HENRY GRATIOT, *Subagent, &c.*

Maj. Gen. GAINES.

HEAD QUARTERS, WESTERN DEPARTMENT,

ROCK ISLAND, 12*th June*, 1831.

SIR: I have received your letter of 11th inst., and thank you for the contents.

Your efforts to separate the Indians of your agency from the British band of Sacs near Rock river, and to aid in the adjustment of the existing misunderstandings here without bloodshed, merit and will receive the approbation of the Government and of every good citizen. Your present intended movement, I think, will contribute to the safety of the frontier as well as the deluded Indians.

Wishing to hear from you often during your absence, and that you will return to me as soon as possible to aid me further in this business.

Your obedient servant,

EDMUND P. GAINES.

To HENRY GRATIOT, Esq. *Subagent, &c.*

E.

Papers relating to the attack of the Sacs and Foxes on the Menomonies near Prairie du Chien.

General Clark to the Secretary of War.

SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

ST. LOUIS, *Sept.* 12, 1831.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ult. on the subject of the late violation of the treaty of Prairie du Chien by the Fox Indians; and have, in accordance with your instructions, given the necessary directions to the agent at Rock island, to convene the chiefs of the Fox tribe, &c. at that place, to meet if possible on the 26th inst. Col. Morgan will, agreeably to the directions of Gen. Atkinson, be present at the council, and will make the necessary demand of a surrender of the principal men concerned in the outrage complained of; and I have reason

to believe that if the requirements of the act of intercourse of 1802, as well as the stipulations of the treaty of 1825, shall be strictly complied with, it will be owing to the prompt and decisive measures pursued by the department. The result of this council shall be promptly communicated.

I take the liberty of enclosing to you herewith two letters from Major Taliaferro, of the 8th and 12th August, and one from Gen. Street, received by the last mail, charging the Sacs with another violation of the treaty of 1825. The facts, however, in relation to this last affair, have been differently stated by the Sacs, who were the first (it appears) to communicate them. They say that the affair took place on their own land, on the waters of the Ioway river; that a party of the Sioux in a buffalo chase fired upon some of their people, and killed a Sac; and that the rest of their people coming up, pursued the Sioux, and killed two of them.

I have the honor to be,
With high respect,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. CLARK.

The Hon. LEWIS CASS, *Secretary of War*.

L. Taliaferro to General Clark.

INDIAN AGENCY, ST. PETER'S,
August 8, 1831.

GENERAL: What I have always feared, and what has been predicted by me in the most decided form, has recently taken place. The *Sac* or Fox Indians, about *forty*, invaded the Sioux territory on or about the 25th of last month (July). These were *mounted men*, who penetrated the country as far as *Cintajah* or the *Grey Tail*, near the head waters of the *Tena Blue river*, which is a tributary of the St. Peter's, and contiguous to this post. *There is no mistake;* the *Sac Indians have killed* two of the most *respectable men* of the Wahpakoota Sioux, at the time and place above stated, and this too at least *sixty miles* from the *ceded territory*, as concluded upon at the treaty of July, 1830, at Prairie du Chien. The Wahpakootas ask for immediate redress, and I beg leave to assure you that the sooner their *just* expectations in this important matter be met, the better *for me*, and for this country—I mean after what was promised by the Government through the commissioners at the treaty of 1830, in presence of the assembled tribes. The Sacs lost *one* man in their attack upon the Sioux, who were in sight of their encampment at the time.

I have written to Col. Morgan, or officer commanding the troops at Prairie du Chien, a copy of which letter is herewith enclosed. I have not gone much into detail, as the matter in question does not admit of delay. The *traders* must lose $20,000 worth of credits already given for the country in possession of the Wahpakootas, if the present difficulty be not very speedily adjusted.

I have the honor to be,
With the highest respect, sir,
Your obedient servant,
LAW. TALIAFERRO,
Indian Agent, St. Peter's.

General WILLIAM CLARK,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

L. Taliaferro to General Clark.

INDIAN AGENCY, ST. PETER'S,
August 12, 1831.

GENERAL: I declined sending off my express on the 8th inst., understanding that one of the *Wahpakoota* chiefs would be here in a day or two. *Tah-sau gah-now*, the principal chief, reached this place last night, and *confirms* the statement made to you on the 8th as to the attack of the Sac Indians upon his people. He desires me to say to you, that in a few days you may expect to hear of a number more of his people losing their *scalps*, as there was considerable firing heard in the direction of the camp of the 2d chief, from whom he had separated but the day previous. The Sacs scalped the two Sioux; after which their bodies, together with the *Sac killed* in the conflict, were buried by the Wahpakootas. The chief wishes me to state further to you, that it is his intention, at my earnest request, to remain quiet until the 1st of October, when, if the Government settles the difficulty as declared at the treaty of Prairie du Chien, his people will be satisfied; otherwise, they will, with all their force, carry the war into the Sac country, to protect themselves. He also states that he has a heart, and it is hard for him to see his people shot down like the buffalo on the lands acknowledged by all nations to belong to them.

I have the honor to be,
With the highest respect, sir,
Your obedient servant,
LAW. TALIAFERRO,
Indian Agent, St. Peter's.

General WILLIAM CLARK,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs at St. Louis.

J. M. Street to General Clark.

U. S. INDIAN AGENCY AT PRAIRIE DU CHIEN,
August 31, 1831.

SIR: A letter from Major Taliaferro, Indian agent at St. Peter's, of the 5th inst., informs me, that, on the 25th of July, a war party of Sacs and Foxes entered the Sioux country as far as Blue Earth river, a southern tributary of the St. Peter's, and at a place called *Cantajah*, attacked an encampment of Wahpakootah Sioux, and killed two, a brother of the chief and a brave, both men of consequence in the tribe. They lost one in the assault.

The Sioux are greatly enraged at the breach of the treaty of 1830, and the loss of their people, and are hardly restrained from immediate vengeance. They have promised to wait until Major Taliaferro can hear from their fathers, who *promised to revenge them if any more of their people were killed after the treaty of* 1830.

My Winnebagoes are quiet, yet they say the Menomonies are their *relations*, and they will go with them to war. I strongly remonstrated with them, and have their promise not to do any thing until I can hear from their great father.

I sincerely hope that something decisive will be done with the Sacs and Foxes. If there is not, it will be useless to endeavor to persuade the Indians to refrain from a united retaliation. They begin to look on the Sacs and Foxes already as *general enemies* to all the tribes north and northeast of them, and intimate that their *great father himself does not punish them.*

I was called upon, by a letter of 22d July, for a special report on the Sac and Fox, Winnebagoe, &c. hostilities at Rock island, with reasons why I had not earlier reported the affair in time. What can this mean? No part of those Indians belong to my agency. In the case of an order of mine to Mr. Kinzie, in 1830, you decided that it was not within my agency, and I had no right to issue an order to an independent subagent. I presume the situation was not perfectly understood at the department. Will you be so obliging as to let me know what you think of it.

I stated all the circumstances, localities, &c., and reported as well as I could.

Had I not been at the treaty, the guarantee of the lines in the 3d article of the treaty would have been in conformity to the treaty of 1825, entirely omitting to mention the lines of 1830, which altered that of 1825 by half a million of acres.

Repectfully, your most obedient servant,

JOS. M. STREET,
U. S. Indian Agent.

P. S. The mail is just in, and no answer to mine of 2d August, reporting the massacre of the Menomonies.

J. M. S.

Gen. William Clark,
Sup. Indian Affairs at St. Louis.

General Clark to the Secretary of War.

Superintendency Indian Affairs,
St. Louis, *Sept.* 22, 1831.

Sir: On receipt of Gen. Street's report of the 1st August, stating the fact of the Menomonies being killed by the Foxes, Mr. St. Vrain, the agent of the Sacs and Foxes, was instructed to make a demand of the Sac and Fox chiefs of the surrender of the leaders and principal men of the party who murdered the Menomonies, and to co operate with the commanding officer at Fort Armstrong, who had received from Gen. Atkinson similar instructions.

By a letter received from Mr. St. Vrain of the 10th inst., accompanied by a journal of the proceedings, herewith enclosed, which informed me that (in conformity with those instructions) a demand had been made of the chiefs of the Sacs and Foxes to surrender those murderers, and that they have not delivered them, they require time, as stated in the journal; and I am under some apprehension that the chiefs cannot be again collected, until they return from their fall hunt, to enable Col. Morgan to explain the views and intentions of the Government, and make a more formal demand of the surrender of those murderers. It appears from information received

from Mr. Low, that the Menomonies are determined to retaliate immediately; yet I believe they will not go to war if they are informed of the measures which have, and are about to be taken, and of the intentions of the President, before the parties set out on their war excursion, which I forwarded to Gen. Street, in an address to their nation, on the receipt of your letter of the 26th of August. The agents in that quarter are efficient men, and I have great confidence in their influence and exertions in effecting the decisive, just, and humane views of the Government towards the Indians.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM CLARK.

To the Hon. Lewis Cass,
Secretary of War.

F. St. Vrain to General Clark.

Rock Island, Indian Agency,
September 10, 1831.

Respected Sir: I have been informed, and it is currently reported, that two Sioux and three Sac Indians met in a prairie, within the limits of the Sac and Fox lands; that one of the Sacs went up towards the Sioux with the intention of shaking hands with them, but the Sioux refused, and threw off their blankets and breach cloths, evidently shewing an unfriendly disposition towards the Sacs: the Sac still continued approaching them until they shot him dead. The other two Sacs which had been concealed from the view of the Sioux, pursued them until they killed both the Sioux. This is the report of the Sac Indians.

I, in concert with Major Bliss, called a council of the principal chiefs of the Sac and Fox Indians for the purpose of demanding the leaders of the band which were concerned in the massacre at Prairie du Chien. The result is as contained in the enclosed journal, which was kept for that purpose. The Indians remained at this place about four days; they got credit from their traders, and departed with the intention of making an immediate move to their hunting grounds. I presume that you have heard of the death of Morgan, the Fox Brave. One of his followers, after hearing of the circumstance, said that it was useless for him to live any longer, now that Morgan was no more. He took his rifle, and went out and shot himself.

Since writing the above, Captain Low told me that the Menomonies were preparing to march against the Sacs and Foxes, and that they would listen to no one, but were determined to take revenge. Should I get any further information on the subject, I will immediately inform you of it.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,
FELIX ST. VRAIN,
Indian Agent.

General Wm. Clark,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

Journal of a council held with the chiefs and warriors of the Sac and Fox Indians at Fort Armstrong, on the 5th Sept., 1831, *by Major Bliss*, 1*st Infantry, commanding, and F. St. Vrain, the U. S. agent*

At about 12 o'clock, the council was opened by the commanding officer as follows:

Chiefs and Warriors of the Sacs and Foxes:

By the treaty of peace you last year made at the request of the President of the United States, with the Sioux, Menomonies and other Indians tribes, you solemnly promised and agreed that there should be peace between you and those tribes. You also agreed that if either tribe should attack either of the other tribes, that the persons of those who should be concerned in the outrage, should be delivered up to the officers of the United States.

About 34 or five nights since, a war party of Foxes and some Sacs, led on by Pashquamee, attacked a peaceable party of Menomonies, near fort Crawford, and killed 26 men, women and children. Wrong has been done, and the treaty of Prairie du Chien has been violated. It becomes our duty therefore, as officers of the United States, to demand that you, the chiefs and warriors of the Sac and Fox Indians, deliver and surrender to us Pashquamee, and all the principal Indians of the Sacs and Foxes who were engaged in this late massacre of the Menomonies near fort Crawford, and we do demand them. We wait for your answer. We hope it may be such as to convince the President, the Great Council, and the citizens of the United States, that the Sacs and Foxes are not liars, that they always speak truth and perform as they promise.

After a short delay, Tiornay, (The Strawberry,) a Fox chief, replied:

My Father: I have heard you and the commanding officer. We were all at the treaty at Prairie du Chien. We have the talk in our minds. All the chiefs you see here have told the young men left behind, all that was said at that time. It is because you do not know our manners, that you think ill of this. When we hear of a war party going out, we do all in our power to stop it. You have heard what I say. We did not tell them to go to war. My Father and commanding officer, how can we stop our men, when your white men cannot stop the whites from committing crimes? Both of our cases are hard: our young men will not do what we wish, and yours act in the same way. This is all I have to say.

Kottekennekak, the Bald Eagle, a Fox Brave, then said:

My Father: Though we were all at Prairie du Chien, how can we stop our young men? they go off while we are asleep, and we know nothing of it. It was not by our consent that the young men struck the Menomonies at Prairie du Chien. We have done all we could, but the young men will not listen to us.

Quashquahing, the Jumping Fish, a British chief:

My Father, and my friends: all the chiefs are dead, and the young men have told me to speak for them. You tell the truth about the treaty at Prairie du Chien, but the Menomonies struck us first, and we struck back. The chiefs have said do not let us strike first. What do you expect us to do? We can only do what our old chiefs have told us. The chiefs that have spoken have told the truth, but what can we do, when our young men will not lis-

Keokuk, (he that has been every where,) a Sac Brave: You tell the truth about the treaty at Prairie du Chien. I was there myself; but you tell a little more. After the treaty was concluded at Prairie du Chien, I and four chiefs went to Gen. Clark and Col. Morgan, and said to them, What will you do with those that strike first? they told us that the principal man should be delivered: this is what I mean when I say a little more. It was then discovered and explained, that the word "principal" had not been interpreted. My old man (pointing to Quashquahing.) The old man did not understand. After the affair of last year, we went to Gen. Clark and Col. Morgan, and notwithstanding the attack of the Menomonies, they made all good and even, but now if what they did, and what we have now done was put in scales, it would balance. I expect it is because our names are Sacs and Foxes that you make a noise about it. When we do the least thing you make a great noise about it. Last winter I went to the Missouri. There an Ioway killed an Omaha. Why was he not hung? They were at the treaty. The reason I say so much against you is because our hearts are good. Our chiefs were killed with the pipe of peace, and the wampum in their hands. This is all I have to say. As for my chiefs and braves they will do as they please. I have said all I have to say on that subject; but why do you not let us fight? You whites are constantly fighting. They are now fighting way east. Why do you not interfere with them? why you do not let us be as the Great Spirit made us? and let us settle our own difficulties?

As this speech of Keokuk's was received by the Indians, with applause for its ingenuity, the commanding officer thought it proper to add that such treaties as were made at Prairie du Chien, were frequently made between the white nations at the east, and enforced.

That it was not because they were Sacs that the present demand was made, but because it was not wished that the Sacs would become liars. That as it regarded the Omahas, whenever they demanded redress for the murder, from the United States, it would then be time to interfere. That that affair did not concern the Sacs: that when the Sacs signed the treaty at Prairie du Chien, they renounced and agreed to give up fighting.

The Black Sparrow Hawk, observed, that as his band was not at the treaty of Prairie du Chien, he had no observations to make.

At 4 o'clock the council reconvened:

Tiornay, the Strawberry: You have heard me and also the chiefs. We do not, any of us know, how this difficulty above happened. We have not time to reflect. We hunt for a living; we cannot lose our fall hunt: But during our fall hunt, we shall be able to talk over the matter, and give an answer next spring.

The commanding officer observed, that he apprehended much mischief might ensue before the next spring, and that an answer before then would be desirable.

Keokuk: The answer you wanted, you have heard from the chief. The reason why this chief put the answer off so long, is because many are absent now, and before they could be collected, it would be so late as to cause us to loose our fall hunt; but during our hunt, we shall be able to talk over this matter, and early next spring give an answer.

We cannot do as you say. We cannot go and get them, (the Indians concerned) and bring them to you. They must offer to give themselves up before we can take them. It is not in our power to take them. We cannot take them without the consent of their relations, some of whom have gone over on the Missouri.

The council then broke up.

J. BLISS, *Maj.* 1 *Infy. Comdg.*
FELIX ST. VRAIN, *Indian Agent*

E. G. MITCHELL,
2d Lt. 1st Inf. and Secretary.